

REMARKS

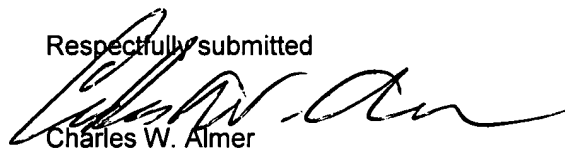
Claims 1 – 58 are pending in the present application. Claims 13 – 58 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 – 12 were rejected in the Final Rejection mailed on March 8, 2004.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that support for the limitation that the vinyl terminated fluorine-containing polysiloxane is of a liquid thermosetting nature is provided in the specification. Specifically, the list of vinyl terminated fluorine-containing polysiloxanes at page 4, lines 15 – 21 contains polysiloxanes that are well known to those skilled in the art as liquid thermosetting polysiloxanes. Even if one skilled in the art were not initially aware of the nature of the materials, that person would easily be able to refer to the product brochure or catalog to obtain that information. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that it is common practice and well known to those skilled in the art to utilize liquid ingredients to make a gel. In the present instance, the vinyl terminated fluorine containing polysiloxane and the SiH containing organosilane are liquid compositions curable by a platinum catalyzed hydrosilation reaction to a thermoset gel. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted



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